



*Always Ready
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The Gem State Guardian

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**Guardian
Online Staff**
Maj. Gen. Gary Sayler
Commanding General
Maj. Chris Borders
Public Affairs Officer
Editor

IDAHO'S 116TH BRIGADE SOLDIERS - EQUIPMENT ARRIVE IN ROMANIA FOR TRAINING STORY BY IDNG PAO

(Boise) – An advanced team of Soldiers assigned to the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team of the Idaho Army National Guard has arrived at the Port of Constanta, Romania in preparation for Exercise Saber Guardian 16.

More than 100 Idaho Soldiers are currently there to receive equipment and supplies, which will be used during the exercise occurring July 27 to Aug. 7 at the Romanian Land Force Combat Training Center in Cincu, Romania.

Saber Guardian is an annual multinational exercise that rotates among Romania, Bulgaria and Ukraine, and this year will include nearly 3,000 personnel from 11 countries – Romania, United States, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Canada, Georgia, Moldova, Poland, Turkey and Ukraine.

The 116th is comprised of units and personnel from the Idaho, Montana and Oregon Army National Guards augmented with the 125th Multi-role Bridge Company of the South Carolina Army National Guard. Approximately 1,000 more personnel from the 116th Brigade



CONSTANTA, Romania – An M1A2 Abrams Tank is lifted by a mobile harbor crane onto a flatcar at the Port of Constanta, June 25, 2016. Once loaded, the tank will be transported to Cincu, Romania via rail to be used in the upcoming Exercise Saber Guardian, scheduled to begin late next month. Saber Guardian is a U.S. Army Europe-led exercise, in the spirit of partnership for peace. It is designed to promote regional stability and security, while strengthening partnership capacity, and fostering trust while improving interoperability between Romania, the U.S., NATO and Partnership for Peace member nations. (U.S. Army photo by SPC Devone Collins/ 24th Press Camp Headquarters)

Combat Team will join roughly 1,500 Soldiers from other U.S.-based units later this month to participate in the exercise.

It took personnel approximately 26 hours to offload the ship that left Charleston, S.C. two weeks prior carrying approximately 300 wheeled and tracked military vehicles belonging to the 116th Brigade and South Carolina's 122nd Engineer Battalion. Now underway is the task of filling railcars with tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles,

HUMVEEs and other equipment bound for central Romania.

"It will take about eight hours for the trains to reach Cincu," said Chief Warrant Officer Steven Howell, brigade movement officer for the 116th. "Once the vehicles are offloaded the trains will return here, to get another load."

Exercise Saber Guardia is part of U.S. European Command's Joint Exercise Program designed to enhance (continued)

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interoperability between Romania, the U.S., NATO members and Partnership for Peace nations.

"In addition to preparing and responding to emergencies at home, the 116th also has a responsibility to help ensure peace and stability across the world," said Col. Farin Schwartz, commander of the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team. "This exercise contributes to the security of our NATO allies, the region and Europe as a whole."



Other U.S. units participating in the exercise include U.S. Army European Command; 1st Battalion of the 64th Armor Regiment; 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team of [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.] the 3rd Infantry Division; the 21st Theater Support Command; the 16th Sustainment Brigade; the 30th

CONSTANTA, Romania - A U.S. Soldier guides an M1A2 Abrams Tank as it drives into position atop a flatcar railway June 25, 2016 at the Port of Constanta, Romania. The 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team (CBCT), Idaho Army National Guard, has spent the last week unloading the ship and loading rail cars with wheeled and track vehicles for shipment to Cincu. (U.S. Army Photo by Staff Sgt. Corinna Baltos/ 24th Press Camp Headquarters)

CONSTANTA, Romania – An M1A2 Abrams Tank rests on the ground before being lifted by a mobile harbor crane onto a flatcar for transport to Cincu, Romania June 25, 2016. The tank, which belongs to the 116th Cavalry Brigade Combat Team, Idaho Army National Guard, along with 28 other track vehicles, arrived at the Port of Constanta six days earlier. The equipment will be unloaded to be used in the upcoming Exercise Saber Guardian, scheduled to begin late next month. Saber Guardian is a U.S. Army Europe-led exercise, in the spirit of partnership for peace. It is designed to promote regional stability and security, while strengthening partnership capacity, and fostering trust while improving interoperability between Romania, the U.S., NATO and Partnership for Peace member nations. (U.S. Army photo by SPC Devone Collins/ 24th Press Camp Headquarters)

Medical Brigade; the 321st Psychological Operations Group and a number of joint multinational units.

Activities during Saber Guardian 16 will include a Field Training Exercise, a Command Post Exercise and a Combined Live Fire Exercise.

"This is a great training opportunity to enhance our capabilities to conduct multi-national and coalition operations," Schwartz said. "By participating in exercises like Saber Guardian, it sends a clear and strong message that NATO and our partner nations have tremendous capability in ensuring a collective security."